

# MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioners, Commission on Affordable Health Care

FROM: Bill Lindsay, Chair

DATE: September 10, 2015

SUBJ: UP-DATE ON COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

This Memorandum is intended as a way to inform each of you about the most recent activities of the Planning Committee and various Commissioners, on behalf of our Commission. It is intended to add transparency and information on developments between meetings. This is simply a summary, so if anyone has questions about anything mentioned here, we can discuss it at the next Commission meeting, or you should feel free to give me a call. The Minutes of the Planning Committee will also be a good reference for Commissioners.

## Funding

We were pleased to learn that the Colorado Trust has agreed to a grant of \$25,000. This grant, in addition to the \$15,000 from the Rose Community Foundation, will help us complete our work this (state) fiscal year. As you know, we have one more proposal outstanding and we hope to hear on that request by Sept. 15.

Plans are underway to build more substantial grant requests for the next fiscal year and we will keep you posted on the progress on those, as information is available.

## Legislative Outreach

Under the leadership of Cindy Solvine-Miller and Elisabeth Arenales, legislative contacts are being made. Most recently, a meeting was held with the staff for the Joint Budget Committee (JBC). We are exploring the opportunity to request supplemental funding later this year. Those conversations are still evolving.

The bill Sponsors were contacted to request support from the National Conference of State Legislatures so that we might learn what other states have done, or are doing, around health care costs, and what appears to be working. More information will be available on this research shortly.

One of the Committee's focus areas is developing stories that may be used to illustrate why this work is so important and where progress can be made, if we are funded and allowed to continue for the planned three-year engagement.

## Work Plan

As we discussed in the last meeting, the plan now is to work on three parallel levels. First, the former Research Committee members will be presenting their research on the list of topics we approved (Transparency, Workforce, Regulation, etc.). These will be presented in the first meeting of each month. The bulk of this work will be done by the Commissioner(s) themselves with some support from CHI. Second, we will have CHI provide data on a series of separate but related topics which follow the requirements of the legislation. This work will enable us to fulfill as much of our charge from the General Assembly as we can this state fiscal year. Third, we will

have selected stakeholders invited to present their response to our questionnaire on topics related to the first two.

The second Commission meeting each month will be used to debrief and process what was presented in the first meeting, and then to attempt to reach consensus on key components. The plan is to keep a running list of the recommendations reached in each meeting, so that Commissioners can reflect on these as we go, and so that we can see how various recommendations may be linked to others. We will also maintain a formal parking lot of items where we had discussion but where no consensus was reached, or where we did not have the time to fully explore a topic. This parking lot will be included in future November legislative reports so that the reader can get a full picture of what future efforts might entail.

### November Report

The rough draft outline for the November report has been distributed twice and was adopted in the last meeting. Obviously, this is just a framework. The details on specific observations and recommendations for this first report are still in development and these will be discussed at future Commission meetings.

At this point the target date for the first complete draft has not been set. It will be set shortly once a few key pieces of information are developed.